

Claims 1-16 are pending in the application.

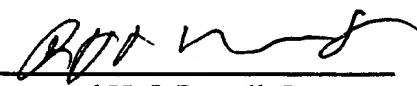
Attached hereto is a substitute specification and a machine-generated redline version of the specification showing additions thereto and deletions therefrom. It is respectfully submitted that the substitute specification does not introduce prohibited new matter into the application.

Claims 1-16 were rejected under the judicially-created of obviousness -type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-22 of U.S. Patent No. 6,243,099. Attached hereto is a Terminal Disclaimer. It is respectfully submitted that the applied rejection is moot in light of the concurrently-filed Terminal Disclaimer; the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the stated rejection.

In light of the remarks presented above, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and such action is hereby solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may best be resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


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Attachment(s):

1. Terminal Disclaimer
2. Petition for an Extension of Time of One Month
3. Substitute Specification
4. Machine-Generated Redline Version of Specification

Date: January 3, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: RP990002US